Beholding the Lamb in the book of Revelation

I. THE FORERUNNER'S PROCLAMATION: BEHOLD THE LAMB

Behold! The <u>lamb of God</u> who takes away the sin of the world! (Jn 1:29,36)

- **A.** In his ministry, John the Baptist proclaimed several messages as he preached in the wilderness. One of the most central was: "Behold, the Lamb of God, who takes away the sin of the world." The message is crucial for the forerunner ministry preparing a people for Lord. (*Lk 1:17*)
- **B.** In the book of Revelation. The Lamb is mentioned at least 26 times throughout all 22 chapters. The Lamb is the central figure in the unfolding of the book. We see the Lambs heart, leadership, wisdom, wrath, blood that cleanses.... Etc.

II. THE LAMB STANDS IN THE MIDST OF THE THRONE

"And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne... stood a Lamb as though it had been slain, having seven horns and seven eyes, which are the seven Spirits of God sent out into all the earth..." (Rev 5:6)

- **A.** In the midst of the throne: In Revelation 4, the throne was the focus: the sovereign God, surrounded by the four living creatures and twenty-four elders, worshiped as Creator. In Revelation 5, the Lamb steps into that scene not as a distant figure, but at the heart of God's throne room, sharing in divine authority. This placement signifies that the Lamb shares the throne with the Father (cf. Revelation 22:1–3). The Lamb is not merely near God, but enthroned with Him, fully divine and fully worthy of the same worship.
- **B.** <u>As though it had been slain</u>: The Lamb carries the marks of His sacrifice even in His glorified state. (Jn 20:27) The scars show what it cost to redeem us and they are the everlasting testimony of the Lamb who took our place and overcame.
 - 27 Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand here, and put it into My side...(Jn 20:27)
- C. <u>Seven horns and seven eyes</u>: We see these 7 eyes in the book of Zach. In chapter four, these eyes are seen as rejoicing to see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel. In Zachariah's day, the Lamb was rejoicing in the day of small beginnings as they laid the foundation for the temple.
 - 10 For who has despised the day of small things? For these seven rejoice to see the plumb line in the hand of Zerubbabel. They are the eyes of the LORD, which scan to and fro throughout the whole earth. (Zech. 4:10)

And there is no creature hidden from His sight, but all things are naked and open to the eyes of Him to whom we must give account. (Heb 4:13)

D. which are the seven Spirits of God..: This refers to the sevenfold fullness of the Spirit. That is the complete, perfect ministry of the one Holy Spirit, as described first in Isaiah 11. These describe the complete fullness of the Holy Spirit that rests upon the Lamb of God—the true "Branch" of Jesse.

1 There shall come forth a Rod from the stem of Jesse, and a Branch shall grow out of his roots. 2 The Spirit of the Lord shall rest upon Him, The Spirit of wisdom and understanding, The Spirit of counsel and might, The Spirit of knowledge and of the fear of the Lord. (Is 11:1-2)

III. THE LAMB IS WORHTY TO OPEN THE SCROLL

Now when <u>He had taken the scroll</u>, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the <u>Lamb</u>... (Rev 5:8)

Now I saw when the <u>Lamb opened one of the seals</u>... (Rev 6:1)

- A. <u>The scroll</u>: God's redemptive plan and decree that will bring history to its consummation. The scroll is God's sovereign plan for reclaiming the world from sin and establishing His kingdom in fullness. The scroll is the *title deed* to the earth (that is the legal document showing ownership of the earth). In Revelation 5, John weeps because there seems to be no one worthy to take the scroll. As John laments one of the elders says to John, "Do not weep. Behold, the Lion of the tribe of Judah, the Root of David, has prevailed to open the scroll and to loose its seven seals." When John looks to see who the angel calls attention to He turns and sees the Lamb standing.
- **B.** <u>The Lamb opens one of the seals:</u> The Lamb breaks the fist seal. This sets into the motion the 21 judgments that follow in the rest of the book. (*The seals, trumpets, and bowls*). It is the qualified slain lamb that looses the first seal unleashing the Antichrist in the earth.

IV. THE LAMB IS WORHTY TO BE WORSHIPED

Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom... Blessing and honor and glory and power be to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever! (Rev 5:12-13)

A. In Revelation 5, the Lamb is worthy into two different ways. First, He is worthy (qualified) to do something that is to open the scroll. Second, He is worthy (deserving of) power and riches and wisdom. He is worthy of receiving His full inheritance in the earth. He is worthy of worship.

"Now to the King eternal, immortal, invisible, to God who alone is wise, be honor and glory forever and ever. Amen" (1 Tim 1:17)

B. The Lamb desires worship because He desires our hearts. Our hearts are transformed when we declare the truth of who He is over and over. The Lambs desire for worship is not some sort of vanity or ego boost for Him, or even worse an insecurity as if He needs to be told how good He is lest He forget. Certainly not. We minister to His heart in worship and we are the beneficiaries. We are the ones who need the convincing of His goodness... and consistent, anointed worship does just that.

V. THE LAMB WASHES AND CLEANSES

9 After these things I looked, and behold, a great multitude which no one could number, of all the nations, tribes, peoples, and tongues, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes... 10 and crying with a loud voice, saying "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"... 14 These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation, and washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb." (Rev 7:9-10, 14)

...whose names have not been written in the <u>Book of Life of the Lamb slain</u> from the foundation of the world. (Rev 13:8)

But only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life. (Rev 21:27)

- A. There is a great multitude, of all that nations peoples and tribes that *come out of the great tribulation*. This multitude stands before the throne and before the Lamb and they are clothed in white robes. Their robes are white because they have *washed them in the blood of the Lamb*. They cry with a loud voice, "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!" The Lamb will see to it that this great multitude comes forth they will be qualified to stand before the throne because of the blood of the Lamb.
- B. The "Book of Life" in the book of *Revelation* is a very real register that contains the names of all those who belong to God, that is, those who have received eternal life through faith in Jesus Christ. It is God's record of the redeemed, those who will enter into eternal fellowship with Him. In Revelation 13, we see that the *Book of life* is "of the Lamb slain." This title emphasizes both ownership and the means by which names are written in it. This book is "The Lamb's Book of Life" (*Rev 21:27*)

VI. THE LAMB IS THE SHEPHERD LEADING

<u>For the Lamb</u> who is in the midst of the throne <u>will shepherd</u> them and lead them to living fountains of waters... (Rev 7:17)

A. The Shepherd leading knows the state and condition of the sheep. He knows, not because He read it in a book, but rather because *He is a Lamb*. He took on our frame and can sympathize with humanities weakness and frailty. We can have confidence in, the Shepherd who is a Lamb, to give grace and help in the time of need. (*Heb 4:14-16*)

VII. THE LAMB ADMINISTRATES HIS WRATH

Hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb! (Rev 6:16)

They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the <u>song of the Lamb</u>, saying: 'Great and marvelous are Your works... for your judgments have been manifested. (Rev 15:3)

These (10 kings) will <u>make war with the Lamb</u>, and the <u>Lamb will overcome them</u>, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings... (Rev 17:14)

- A. During the 6th seal, we see the beginning of judgment unleashed through cosmic disturbances. An earthquake, the sun becomes black, the moon becomes blood, stars of heaven fall.. etc. During this time the kings of the earth begin to hide in caves and say to the mountains and rocks, "Fall on us and hide us front he face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!" These men have understanding that the judgment at hand is form the one on the throne and from the Lamb
- **B.** In Revelation 15, those on the sea of glass sing the song of Moses, and the *song of the Lamb*. In this song they declare of the marvelous works and just and true ways of King of the saints. The song ends with "For Your judgements have been manifested". The singing of the song of Moses and the *song of the Lamb* sets a heavenly scene in motion (Rev 15:6-8) that releases seven angels with the 7 plagues.

VIII. THE LAMB IS THE MEANS BY WHICH THE SAINTS OVERCOME

And they overcame him (the accuser) by the <u>blood of the Lamb</u> and by the word of their testimony... (Rev 12:11)

- A. The saints will overcome the accuser of the brethren, who accuses night and day, <u>by the blood of</u> the Lamb and by the word of their testimony.
- **B.** The accuser is continually speaking his accusations. According to Hebrew 12, the blood is speaking a better word. The questions is.. do we align our declaration, our speaking, with the accuser or the blood? To overcome the saints must agree with what the blood of the Lamb is saying and reject what the accuser says.

IX. THE LAMB LEADING THE 144,000

"Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand..." (Rev 14:1)

"These are the ones who were not defiled with women... These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes." (Rev 14:4)

"...he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb." (Rev 14:10)

X. THE LAMB IS THE BRIDEGROOM

Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the <u>marriage of the Lamb</u> has come, and His wife has made herself ready... Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb! (Rev 19:7,9)

Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife. (Rev 21:9)

A. The Bridegroom is the Lamb. It is called *the marriage supper of the Lamb*. In Revelation 21, the bride is called *the Lamb's wife*.

XI. THE LAMB IN THE NEW JERUSALEM AND BEYOND

Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the <u>twelve apostles of</u> <u>the Lamb</u>. (Rev 21:14)

But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple. (Rev 21:22)

The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. <u>The Lamb is its light</u>. (Rev 21:23)

And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb. (Rev 22:1)

But the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him. (Rev 22:3)

XII. THE COUNTERFEIT LAMB

Then I saw another beast... and he had two horns like a lamb and spoke like a dragon. (Rev 13:11)

A. In Revelation 13, there is "another beast". This is a description of the false prophet that causes people to worship the Antichrist. This false prophet has two horns *like a lamb*. On the surface He will have the appearance of the Lamb but His message is of the dragon. (satan)

XIII. CONCLUSION

A. There is much to "Beholding the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world." John the Baptist was pointing people to the Lamb of God. The Lord will raise up many in the same forerunner spirit as John the Baptist who point people to behold the Lamb. The book of Revelation is a gift to these messengers filled with insight and understand regarding "the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world." Beholding the Lamb is vital for the preparation of the Body of Christ to stand in agreement with what He will do and why He will do it.

The Lamb in Revelation — NKJV (26 Occurrences)

Revelation 5

- 5:6 "And I looked, and behold, in the midst of the throne... stood a Lamb as though it had been slain..."
- 5:8 "Now when He had taken the scroll, the four living creatures and the twenty-four elders fell down before the Lamb..."
- 5:12 "Worthy is the Lamb who was slain to receive power and riches and wisdom..."
- 5:13 "Blessing and honor and glory and power be to Him who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb, forever and ever!"

Revelation 6

6:1 - "Now I saw when the Lamb opened one of the seals..."

6:16 - "Hide us from the face of Him who sits on the throne and from the wrath of the Lamb!"

Revelation 7

- 7:9 "Before the throne and before the Lamb, clothed with white robes..."
- 7:10 "Salvation belongs to our God who sits on the throne, and to the Lamb!"
- 7:14 "These are the ones who come out of the great tribulation... and made them white in the blood of the Lamb."
- 7:17 "For the Lamb who is in the midst of the throne will shepherd them and lead them to living fountains of waters..."

Revelation 12

12:11 - "And they overcame him by the blood of the Lamb and by the word of their testimony..."

Revelation 13

13:8 - "...whose names have not been written in the Book of Life of the Lamb slain from the foundation of the world."

Revelation 14

- 14:1 "Then I looked, and behold, a Lamb standing on Mount Zion, and with Him one hundred and forty-four thousand..."
- 14:4 "These are the ones who were not defiled with women... These are the ones who follow the Lamb wherever He goes."
- 14:10 "...he shall be tormented with fire and brimstone in the presence of the holy angels and in the presence of the Lamb."

Revelation 15

15:3 - "They sing the song of Moses, the servant of God, and the song of the Lamb, saying: 'Great and marvelous are Your works..."

Revelation 17

17:14 - "These will make war with the Lamb, and the Lamb will overcome them, for He is Lord of lords and King of kings..."

Revelation 19

19:7 - "Let us be glad and rejoice and give Him glory, for the marriage of the Lamb has come, and His wife has made herself ready."

19:9 - "Blessed are those who are called to the marriage supper of the Lamb!"

Revelation 21

- 21:9 "Come, I will show you the bride, the Lamb's wife."
- 21:14 "Now the wall of the city had twelve foundations, and on them were the names of the twelve apostles of the Lamb."
- 21:22 "But I saw no temple in it, for the Lord God Almighty and the Lamb are its temple."
- 21:23 "The city had no need of the sun or of the moon to shine in it, for the glory of God illuminated it. The Lamb is its light."
- 21:27 "But only those who are written in the Lamb's Book of Life."

Revelation 22

- 22:1 "And he showed me a pure river of water of life, clear as crystal, proceeding from the throne of God and of the Lamb."
- 22:3 "But the throne of God and of the Lamb shall be in it, and His servants shall serve Him."